

Pennsbury School District

School Board Policy

Effective Date	Supercedes Index No.	Index No.
12/11/08	New	114.1

Title: Gifted Education

Purpose: In accordance with the School Board's philosophy to develop the special abilities of each student, the district shall provide gifted education programs designed to meet the individual educational needs of each student.

This policy emphasizes and elaborates upon requirements of law.

Definitions: **Gifted student** – shall mean a student of school age with an IQ of 130 or higher who meets established multiple criteria indicating gifted ability or a school-aged student with an IQ lower than 130 when educational criteria strongly indicate gifted ability. For purposes of this definition, any determination of mentally gifted status shall include an assessment by a certified school psychologist.

GIEP - shall mean a Gifted Individualized Education Plan.

GMDT – shall mean a Gifted Multidisciplinary Team. The GMDT shall be formed on the basis of the student's needs and shall be comprised of the student's parents or guardians; a certified school psychologist; persons familiar with the student's educational experience and performance; one or more of the student's current teachers; persons trained in the appropriate evaluation techniques; and, when possible, persons familiar with the student's cultural background. A single member of the GMDT may meet two or more of the specified qualifications.

Policy: Guidelines

The School District's gifted education program shall provide the following:

- a. Services and programs planned, developed and operated for identification and evaluation of each gifted student.

- b. Gifted education for each identified student, based on the unique needs of the student, not solely on the classification.
- c. Gifted education that enables identified students to participate in acceleration and enrichment programs, and to receive services appropriate to their intellectual and academic abilities and needs.

Referral Procedures

The Chief Executive Officer, Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement procedures and the necessary forms to permit teachers to refer a student or allow a parent or guardian to request in writing that a school-aged student undergo a multidisciplinary gifted evaluation to determine if the student is gifted.

Evaluation Process

The Chief Executive Officer, Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement procedures to create a GMDT to determine if a school-aged student is eligible to receive gifted services.

Development of GIEP

The Chief Executive Officer, Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement procedures to ensure the development of a GIEP for each gifted student and subsequent modification of services, in the manner prescribed by law.

Caseloads/Class Size

The Chief Executive Officer, Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement procedures, in conjunction with the building principals and other appropriate school personnel, to annually assess the delivery of gifted education within the School District in order to:

1. Ensure the ability of assigned staff to provide the services required in each identified student's GIEP.
2. Address the educational placements for gifted students within the district.
3. Limit the total number of gifted students that can be on an individual gifted teacher's caseload per PDE guidelines.
4. Limit the total number of gifted students that can be on an individual gifted teacher's class roster per PDE guidelines.

Notwithstanding the above, the School District shall have the right to make a written request to the Secretary of Education to waive the applicable caseload and class size maximums in extenuating circumstances.

Notice/Consent for Evaluation

Prior to the district conducting an initial gifted multidisciplinary evaluation or re-evaluation of any school-aged student, the School District shall provide the parents or guardians of that student with written notice proposing such an evaluation and obtain written parental consent to do so.

Confidentiality of Student Records

All personally identifiable information regarding a gifted student shall be treated as confidential and disclosed only as permitted by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. §1232g; its implementing regulations, 34 C.F.R. Part 99; and Chapter 12 of the State Board of Education Regulations, 22 Pa. Code §12.33 Appendix A.

Awareness Activities

The Chief Executive Officer, Superintendent or designee shall annually conduct awareness activities to inform parents of school-aged children residing within the School District of its gifted education program. Those awareness activities may include providing written notice of the School District's gifted education program through newspapers and School District publications; distributing such written notice to private schools serving school-aged residents; hosting meetings and/or distributing literature designed to inform parents of newly-enrolled students of the School District's gifted services.

Reference: 22 Pa. Code §16 et seq

**Responsible
Administrator:** Director of Special Education